

IN THE CLAIMS:

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1. (currently amended) A method for operating a computer to facilitate a lease transaction, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a database for storing information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease;

prompting a customer to select a lease transaction type for a specific type of equipment to be leased;

prompting the customer to provide information required to generate at least one document for the selected lease transaction type, the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements;

B. matching the customer provided information with the equipment information stored within the database by applying predetermined search rules;

displaying search results including each piece of equipment matching the customer provided information;

selecting by the customer a piece of equipment from the displayed search results;

receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the at least one document; and

generating the at least one document using the modified customer provided information and the customer selected piece of equipment;

posting the generated document such that the customer and the lessor can view the document and document data, document data is information relating to the generation of the document including historical drafts of the document, each author of the historical drafts, and modification dates; and

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tracking tasks to be performed, dates for performance, and parties responsible for performing the tasks as set forth in terms and conditions of the generated document including at least one of inspecting the customer selected piece of equipment, signing the generated document, and meeting regarding the lease transaction.

2. (original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein prompting a customer to select a lease transaction type comprises the step of displaying a computer generated screen listing a plurality of lease transaction type selections.

3. (original) A method according to Claim 2 wherein said lease transaction type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

4. (original) A method according to Claim 3 wherein for a lease extension, prompting the customer to provide information required to generate at least one document comprises the step of displaying information related to at least one lease to the customer.

5. (original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein prompting the customer to provide information required to generate at least one document comprises the step of displaying a computer generated screen listing a plurality of equipment criteria and delivery requirements.

6. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the steps of searching a database to identify equipment which match the criteria supplied by the customer in response to prompting the customer to provide information required to generate at least one document, and displaying to the customer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified as a match from the database search.

7. (original) A method according to Claim 6 wherein a customer is prompted to select at least one of the identified equipment, and wherein generating the document comprises the step of populating the selected document type with data related to the one identified equipment.

8. (original) A method according to Claim 6 wherein the equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, ships, vehicles, and containers.

9. (currently amended) A computer programmed to:

store, in a database, information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease;

prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of equipment to be leased;

prompt a customer to provide information required to generate at least one document for the selected lease transaction type, the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements;

match the customer provided information with the equipment information stored within the database by applying predetermined search rules;

display search results including each piece of equipment matching the customer provided information;

prompt the customer to select a piece of equipment from the displayed search results;

receive information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the at least one document; ~~and~~

generate the at least one document using the modified customer provided information and the customer selected piece of equipment;

post the generated document such that the customer and the lessor can view the document and document data, document data is information relating to the generation of the document including historical drafts of the document, each author of the historical drafts, and modification dates; and

track tasks to be performed, dates for performance, and parties responsible for performing the tasks as set forth in terms and conditions of the generated document including at least one of inspecting the customer selected piece of equipment, signing the generated document, and meeting regarding the lease transaction.

10. (original) A computer according to Claim 9 wherein to prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction, said computer displays a computer generated screen listing a plurality of lease transaction type selections.

11. (original) A computer according to Claim 10 wherein said document type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a sale and lease back agreement.

12. (original) A computer according to Claim 11 wherein for a lease extension, said computer displays, to the customer, information related to at least one lease.

13. (original) A computer according to Claim 9 wherein to prompt a customer to provide information required to generate the at least one document, said computer displays a computer generated screen listing a plurality of equipment criteria and delivery requirements.

b 14. (previously presented) A computer according to Claim 9 further programmed to search a database to identify equipment which match the criteria supplied by the customer in response to prompting the customer to provide information required to generate the at least one document, and to display to the customer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified as a match from the database search.

15. (original) A computer according to Claim 14 further programmed to prompt a customer to select at least one of the identified equipment, and wherein to generate the at least one document, said computer populates the document with data related to the one identified equipment.

16. (original) A computer according to Claim 14 wherein the equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, ships, vehicles, and containers.

17. (currently amended) A database comprising:

a first set of data corresponding to an availability query submitted by a customer and related to a lease transaction, the first set of data including criteria for equipment to be leased and additional lease requirements;

a second set of data corresponding to information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment, and if the equipment is being leased, the terms of the lease;

a third set of data corresponding to predetermined search rules that are applied to match the first set of data with the equipment information in the second set of data; ~~and~~

a forth set of data corresponding to search results including each piece of equipment matching the customer provided information, wherein the customer is prompted to select a piece of equipment from search results;

a ~~fourth~~ fifth set of data corresponding to modifications of the first set of data that are made by a lessor;

a sixth set of data corresponding to at least one document generated using the fifth set of data and the customer selected piece of equipment;

a seventh set of data corresponding to the generated document that enables the customer and the lessor to view the document and document data, document data is information relating to the generation of the document including historical drafts of the document, each author of the historical drafts, and modification dates; and

an eighth set of data corresponding to tasks to be performed, dates for performance, and parties responsible for performing the tasks as set forth in terms and conditions of the generated document including at least one of inspecting the customer selected piece of equipment, signing the generated document, and meeting regarding the lease transaction.

18. (currently amended) A database according to Claim 17 wherein the fourth set of data further comprising includes a ~~fifth~~ set of data corresponding to search results from execution of the availability query.

19. (currently amended) A database according to Claim 17 further comprising a ~~fifth~~ ninth set of data corresponding to a customer desired equipment configuration.


20. (currently amended) A database according to Claim 17 further comprising a ~~fifth~~ ninth set of data corresponding to availability of equipment for lease.

21. (currently amended) A system for generating lease documents, said system comprising:

a database comprising information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the database including the terms of the lease; and

a server configured to:

prompt a customer to provide information required to generate a document for a selected lease transaction type, the customer provided information includes criteria of an equipment and additional lease requirements;

 match the customer provided information with the equipment information by applying predetermined search rules;

display search results including each piece of equipment matching the customer provided information;

prompt the customer to select a piece of equipment from the displayed search results;

prompt a lessor to select a type of document to be generated and to provide information required to generate the selected document type; and

receive information entered by the lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the document-;

generate the at least one document using the modified customer provided information and the customer selected piece of equipment;

post the generated document such that the customer and the lessor can view the document and document data, document data is information relating to the generation of the

document including historical drafts of the document, each author of the historical drafts, and modification dates; and

track tasks to be performed, dates for performance, and parties responsible for performing the tasks as set forth in terms and conditions of the generated document including at least one of inspecting the customer selected piece of equipment, signing the generated document, and meeting regarding the lease transaction.

22. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 21 wherein said database further comprises at least one of data corresponding to an availability query submitted by the lessor including a marketing executive and related to a lease transaction, data corresponding to search results from execution of the availability query, data corresponding to a marketing executive desired equipment configuration, and data corresponding to availability of equipment for lease.

23. (original) A system according to Claim 21 wherein said server is configured to cause a screen listing a plurality of transaction type selections to be displayed at a client computer.

24. (original) A system according to Claim 23 wherein said transaction type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

25. (original) A system according to Claim 23 wherein for a lease extension, said server causes said client computer to display information related to at least one lease.

26. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 21 wherein to prompt the lessor including a marketing executive to provide information required to generate the selected document type, said server is configured to cause to be displayed at a client computer a screen listing the equipment criteria and delivery requirements.


27. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 21 wherein said server is configured to cause said database to be searched to identify equipment which match criteria supplied in response to prompting the lessor including a marketing executive to provide information required to generate the selected document type, and to display at a client computer

at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified as a match from the database search.

28. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 27 wherein said server is further configured to prompt the marketing executive to select at least one of the identified equipment, and wherein to generate the selected document type using the customer provided information, said server is configured to populate the selected document type with data related to the one identified equipment.

29. (original) A system according to Claim 27 wherein the equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, ships, vehicles, and containers.

30. (currently amended) A method for initiating a lease transaction, said method comprising the steps of:

 prompting a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of equipment to be leased;

prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction, the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements;

prompting the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction;

matching the customer provided information with equipment information by applying predetermined search rules, the equipment information including specifications for a plurality of equipment and, if a piece of equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease; and

displaying search results including each piece of equipment matching the customer provided information;

selecting by the customer a piece of equipment from the displayed search results;


receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the term sheet.;



generating the term sheet using the modified customer provided information and the customer selected piece of equipment;

posting the generated term sheet such that the customer and the lessor can view the term sheet and document data, document data is information relating to the generation of the term sheet including historical drafts of the term sheet, each author of the historical drafts, and modification dates; and

tracking tasks to be performed, dates for performance, and parties responsible for performing the tasks as set forth in terms and conditions of the generated term sheet including at least one of inspecting the customer selected piece of equipment, signing the term sheet, and meeting regarding the lease transaction.



31. (original) A method according to Claim 30 wherein prompting a customer to select a type of lease transaction comprises the step of displaying a computer generated screen listing a plurality of lease transaction type selections.

32. (original) A method according to Claim 31 wherein said lease transaction type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

33. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 32 wherein for a lease extension, prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction comprises the step of displaying information related to at least one lease to the customer.

34. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 30 wherein prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction comprises the step of displaying a computer generated screen listing the equipment criteria and delivery requirements.

35. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 30 further comprising the steps of searching a database to identify equipment which match the equipment criteria supplied by the customer in response to prompting the customer to provide information regarding the equipment

to be subject to the lease transaction, and displaying to the customer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified from the database search.

36. (original) A method according to Claim 35 wherein a customer is prompted to select at least one of the identified equipment, and further comprising the step of generating a term sheet using the customer provided information.

37. (original) A method according to Claim 35 wherein the equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, ships, vehicles, and containers.

38. (currently amended) A method for initiating a lease transaction, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a database for storing information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease;

selecting, by a customer, from an electronic interface, a lease transaction type for a specific type of equipment to be leased;

identifying, by the customer, from the electronic interface, information including criteria of equipment desired to be subject to the lease and additional lease requirements;

requesting, by the customer, from the electronic interface, a term sheet for the selected lease type and identified equipment;

matching the customer provided information with the equipment information by applying predetermined search rules; and

displaying search results including each piece of equipment matching the customer provided information;

selecting by the customer a piece of equipment from the displayed search results;

receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the term sheet.;

generating the term sheet using the modified customer provided information and the customer selected piece of equipment;

posting the generated term sheet such that the customer and the lessor can view the term sheet and document data, document data is information relating to the generation of the term sheet including historical drafts of the terms sheet, each author of the historical drafts, and modification dates; and

tracking tasks to be performed, dates for performance, and parties responsible for performing the tasks as set forth in terms and conditions of the generated term sheet including at least one of inspecting the customer selected piece of equipment, signing the generated term sheet, and meeting regarding the lease transaction.

39. (original) A method according to Claim 38 wherein said lease transaction type comprises at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

40. (original) A method according to Claim 39 wherein for a lease extension, said method comprises the step of identifying the lease desired to be extended.

41. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 38 wherein identifying information including criteria of the equipment desired to be subject to the lease comprises the step of identifying the desired equipment type and the criteria to be satisfied by the desired equipment.

42. (original) A method according to Claim 38 wherein the equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, ships, vehicles, and containers.

43. (currently amended) Apparatus comprising:

means for storing information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease;

means for prompting a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of equipment to be leased;

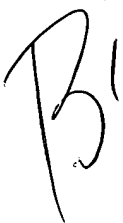
means for prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction, the customer provided information including criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements;

means for prompting the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction;

means for matching the customer provided information with the equipment information by applying predetermined search rules; and

means for displaying search results including each piece of equipment matching the customer provided information;

means for selecting by the customer a piece of equipment from the displayed search results;

 means for receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the term sheet-;

means for generating the term sheet using the modified customer provided information and the customer selected piece of equipment;

means for posting the generated term sheet such that the customer and the lessor can view the term sheet and document data, document data is information relating to the generation of the term sheet including historical drafts of the terms sheet, each author of the historical drafts, and modification dates; and

means for tracking tasks to be performed, dates for performance, and parties responsible for performing the tasks as set forth in terms and conditions of the generated term sheet including at least one of inspecting the customer selected piece of equipment, signing the generated term sheet, and meeting regarding the lease transaction.

44. (original) Apparatus according to Claim 43 wherein said means prompting a customer to select a type of lease transaction comprises means for displaying a computer generated screen listing a plurality of lease transaction type selections.

45. (original) Apparatus according to Claim 44 wherein said lease transaction type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

46. (original) Apparatus according to Claim 45 wherein for a lease extension, said means for prompting a customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction displays information related to at least one lease to the customer.

47. (previously presented) Apparatus according to Claim 43 wherein said means for prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction comprises means for displaying a computer generated screen listing the equipment criteria and delivery requirements.

48. (previously presented) Apparatus according to Claim 43 further comprising means for searching a database to identify equipment which match the equipment criteria supplied by the customer in response to prompting the customer to provide information regarding the equipment to be subject to the lease transaction, and means for displaying to the customer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified from the database search.

49. (previously presented) Apparatus according to Claim 48 further comprising means for generating the term sheet using the customer provided information.

50. (original) Apparatus according to Claim 43 wherein said equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, and ships.

51. (currently amended) A system for facilitating a lease transaction for aircraft, said system comprising:

a database comprising information relating to a plurality of aircrafts for lease including specifications for each aircraft and, if the aircraft is currently being leased, the terms of the lease; and

a server configured to:

prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of aircraft to be leased;

prompt the customer to provide information regarding aircraft desired to be subject to the lease transaction, the customer provided information includes criteria of the aircraft and additional lease requirements;

prompt the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction;

~~receive information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information to generate the term sheet; and~~

match, based on a set of rules, the customer provided information with the aircraft information, the set of rules including at least one of countries in which aircraft can be leased, a tax based restriction on aircraft enforced in some of the countries, and whether the aircraft is newly manufactured;

display search results including each aircraft matching the customer provided information;

prompt the customer to select an aircraft from the displayed search results;

receive information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the term sheet;

generate the term sheet using the modified customer provided information and the customer selected aircraft;

post the generated term sheet such that the customer and the lessor can view the term sheet and document data, document data is information relating to the generation of the term sheet including historical drafts of the term sheet, each author of the historical drafts, and modification dates; and

track tasks to be performed, dates for performance, and parties responsible for performing the tasks as set forth in terms and conditions of the generated term sheet including at least one of inspecting the customer selected aircraft, signing the generated term sheet, and meeting regarding the lease transaction.

52. (original) A system according to Claim 51 wherein to prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer a computer generated screen listing a plurality of lease transaction type selections.

53. (original) A system according to Claim 52 wherein said lease transaction type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

B1 54. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 53 wherein for a lease extension, to prompt the customer to provide information regarding aircraft to be subject to the lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer information related to at least one lease to the customer.

55. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 51 wherein to prompt the customer to provide information regarding aircraft to be subject to the lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer a display listing the aircraft criteria and delivery requirements.

56. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 51 wherein said server is further configured to search said database to identify aircraft which match the aircraft criteria supplied by the customer, and to cause to be displayed on a customer computer at least some information relating to at least some of the aircraft identified from the database search.

57. (currently amended) A system according to ~~Claim 56~~ Claim 51 wherein ~~said server is configured to cause to be displayed on a customer computer a prompt to select at least one of the identified aircraft.~~ the set of matching rules comprises:

only aircraft selected as being available by the lessor can be returned by a search, if the exact match is not available for a specified delivery date, matches in nearest available months are displayed;

for each aircraft viewable by the customer, at least one of a country and region may be identified into which that aircraft may not be leased;

for each aircraft, a tax based restriction may be specified, the tax based restriction includes a geographical region;

engine type and thrust is based on aircraft type and series selected; and

an aircraft weight is based on the aircraft type selected.

58. (currently amended) A system for facilitating a lease transaction for an aircraft engine, said system comprising:

a database comprising information for aircraft engines for lease including specifications for each aircraft engine and, if the aircraft engine is currently being leased, the terms of the lease;

a server configured to prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of aircraft engine to be leased, prompt the customer to provide information regarding an aircraft engine desired to be subject to the lease transaction; wherein the customer provided information includes criteria of the aircraft engine and additional lease requirements, prompt the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction, match the customer provided information with the aircraft engine information stored within the database by applying predetermined search rules; display search results including each aircraft engine matching the customer provided information, prompt the customer to select an aircraft engine from the displayed search results, and receive information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information to generate the term sheet; generate the term sheet using the modified customer provided information and the customer selected aircraft engine, post the generated term sheet such that the customer and the lessor can view the term sheet and document data including historical drafts of the term sheet, each author of the historical drafts, and modification dates, and track tasks to be performed, dates for performance, and parties



responsible for performing the tasks as set forth in terms and conditions of the generated term sheet including at least one of inspecting the customer selected aircraft, signing the generated term sheet, and meeting regarding the lease transaction.

59. (original) A system according to Claim 58 wherein to prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer a display listing a plurality of lease transaction type selections.

60. (original) A system according to Claim 59 wherein said lease transaction type selections comprise at least one of a lease extension, a lease, and a purchase lease back agreement.

61. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 60 wherein for a lease extension, to prompt the customer to provide information regarding an aircraft engine to be subject to the lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer information related to at least one lease to the customer

62. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 58 wherein to prompt the customer to provide information regarding an aircraft engine to be subject to the lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer a computer generated screen listing the aircraft engine criteria and delivery requirements.

63. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 58 wherein said server is further configured to search said database to identify aircraft engines which match the aircraft engine criteria supplied by the customer, and to cause to be displayed on a customer computer at least some information relating to at least some of the aircraft engines identified from the database search.

64. (original) A system according to Claim 63 wherein said server is configured to cause to be displayed on a customer computer a prompt to select at least one of the identified aircraft engines.

65. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium, comprising:

a record of customer submitted availability queries, the customer submitted availability queries includes criteria of equipment to be leased and additional lease requirements;

a plurality of rules for matching equipment information to the customer submitted availability queries, the equipment information including specifications for each piece of equipment, and if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease;

a first record of results from applying the matching rules to the customer submitted availability queries; and

a record of a piece of equipment selected by the customer from the first record of results;

a second record of results from information entered by a lessor to modify the customer submitted availability queries-;

a record of a document generated from the modified customer submitted availability queries and the record of a piece of equipment selected by the customer including historical drafts of the document, each author of the historical drafts, and modification dates; and

a record of tasks to be performed, dates for performance, and parties responsible for performing the tasks as set forth in terms and conditions of the generated document including at least one of inspecting the customer selected piece of equipment, signing the generated document, and meeting regarding the lease transaction.

66. (original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 65 wherein the equipment comprises at least one of aircraft, aircraft engines, rail cars, locomotives, and ships.

67. (original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 65 wherein said availability query record comprises a query number and a model.

68. (original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 65 further comprising a record of required delivery dates comprising a query number, a delivery year, a delivery month, and a quantity.

69. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 65 wherein said first record of results comprises a result number, a query number, and a term sheet request.

70. (original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 65 further comprising a record of availability.

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